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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/913,157  
Applicant : Katsumi TSUKAMOTO et al.  
Filed : August 10, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 2686  
Examiner : J. Contee  
  
Docket No. : 1137-827  
Customer No. : 06449  
Confirmation No. : 3642

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Director of the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Accordingly, Applicant petitions the Commissioner to consider this information disclosure statement.

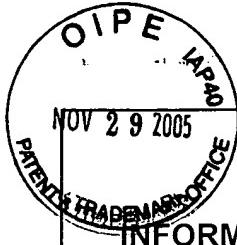
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2135. An additional copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, p.c.

By 

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	09/913,157
Filing Date	August 10, 2001
First Named Inventor	Katsumi TSUKAMOTO et al.
Group Art Unit	2686
Examiner Name	J. Contee
Attorney Docket Number	1137-827

Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 1137-827

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup> Code	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	06-013959		HITACHI LTD.	01-21-1994	AB

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance

and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code.

<sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.